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### **STANISLAUS COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION APPROVES HEALTH AND SAFETY MINI GRANTS**

**Modesto, Ca.** --- The Stanislaus County Children and Families Commission has approved \$100,000 in health and safety mini grants from Proposition 10 tobacco funds to benefit children 0 - 5 in the community.

The Commission authorized that 48 grants be awarded to daycare centers, community agencies and schools that applied for the funding. In all, a total of 117 grant applications were reviewed by United Way of Stanislaus County. The agency is partnering with the Prop. 10 Commission to distribute the funds.

Among the health and safety program grants approved: projects to provide car seats, water safety awareness, and CPR classes for parents and caregivers.

Last year, the Commission awarded \$2.9 million in grants to schools, childcare providers and community agencies to provide early childhood programs and services.

Proposition 10 was a voter-approved ballot initiative passed in 1998 that added a 50-cent tax per pack of cigarettes. The monies collected are to be used to fund education, health and childcare programs that promote early childhood development, from prenatal to age five.

Stanislaus County receives about 7 million dollars a year from the tobacco tax revenue.